



Rear Admiral Gerd F. Glang
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps
Director, Office of Coast Survey



Rear Admiral Gerd F. Glang is the director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Coast Survey, appointed in 2012. He also serves as the U.S. National Hydrographer and is a member of the Mississippi River Commission.

A NOAA Corps officer since 1989, RDML Glang is a professional mariner, specializing in hydrographic surveying and seafloor mapping sciences. Glang served aboard four NOAA ships. On NOAA Ship *Rainier*, his first experiences in hydrography took him to the largely uncharted coastal waters of Alaska's southwest peninsula. He was commanding officer of NOAA Ship *Whiting* in 1999, when the ship responded to the seafloor search for John F. Kennedy, Jr.'s, downed aircraft. Just three months later, he led the *Whiting* to the first discovery of the seafloor debris fields from Egypt Air Flight 990. From



2008 to 2009, Glang served as commanding officer of NOAA's largest ship, *Ronald H. Brown*, with oceanographic and atmospheric research operations from the South Pacific to the Atlantic Coast. Projects included servicing oceanographic buoys in support of weather and atmospheric research, ocean mapping in support of tsunami modeling, and remotely operated vehicle exploration of deep-water corals. He also served as the executive officer of NOAA Ship *Heck*.

Ashore, Glang has served in various operational, technical, and leadership assignments, including chief of the Coast Survey's Hydrographic Surveys Division and chief of the Pacific Hydrographic Party. Glang also served as the deputy lead of strategic planning for NOAA's National Ocean Service.

Glang graduated in 1984 from the State University of New York Maritime College with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, and a U.S. Coast Guard Deck Officer license. In 2004, he completed the University of New Hampshire graduate certificate program in advanced ocean mapping. Glang is a 2012 graduate of the Federal Executive Institute's Leadership for a Democratic Society program, and is a 2006 graduate of the Harvard Kennedy School Senior Executive Fellows program. Before joining the NOAA Officer Corps, Glang served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Air Force.

Glang has been recognized on numerous occasions for outstanding service and leadership. His awards include the Department of Commerce Silver Medal, two Department of Commerce Bronze Medals, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, and two NOAA Corps Commendation Medals.